



Liquefied Gas Mariner Training Standards

Memorandum Of Understanding



LIQUEFIED GAS MARINER TRAINING STANDARDS

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. INTRODUCTION:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the American Maritime Officers union, Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots, Sailors' Union of the Pacific, Seafarers International Union, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, California Maritime Academy, Great Lakes Maritime Academy, Maine Maritime Academy, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, State University of New York Maritime College, and Texas Maritime Academy (hereinafter referred to as the "Organizations") sets forth the agreement of the Organizations with respect to Liquefied Gas (LG) Mariner Training Standards. These standards have been developed to complement the Maritime Administration Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Crewing Initiative in support of the objectives of the Deepwater Port Act, as amended.

2. BACKGROUND:

In January 2007, the Maritime Administrator met with the leadership of the Organizations to facilitate the maritime industry's coordinated effort to increase and expedite training of qualified U.S. officers and unlicensed crews to meet an anticipated global manning shortfall in the LG industry.

The Organizations participated in a three-day technical working group meeting at the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS) to develop a common set of LG training standards for U.S. mariners. This LG Mariner Training Standards Technical Working Group represented ratings from unlicensed to Master and Chief Engineer and included 218 years of sailing experience, 77 of which were on LNG vessels, and 177 years of maritime instructor experience, 33 of which were in LNG courses. This distinguished group of experts was successful in creating three tables of competency upon which to base LG training curricula, one each for liquefied gas (LG) Awareness, LG Specific Duties, and LG Person-in-Charge (PIC). The approach taken in developing these standards should serve to meet the international community's requirements and provide for straightforward integration into future U.S. Coast Guard and IMO approved standards.

3. PARTICIPATION:

This MOU is entered into voluntarily by each of the Organizations. The Organizations are not liable to each other or any other entity as a consequence of participation further to this Memorandum of Understanding. The Maritime Administration assumes no liability or financial responsibility by endorsement.

4. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to set forth the agreement of the Organizations to adopt, implement, and support the LG Mariner Training Standards, mutually developed and commonly agreed upon, for training U.S. mariners to qualify for immediate employment as LG qualified seafarers at the completion of training.

5. UNDERTAKINGS BY THE ORGANIZATIONS:

- A. Use the LG Training Standards, incorporated herein, when developing or expanding curricula for the training of LG qualified graduates.
- B. Work to expand, when possible, the enrollment of and successful graduation of LG qualified mariners.
- C. Inform the Maritime Administration of existing programs, planned future programs, the number of students enrolled in their LG training programs, and the number of LG qualified graduates produced annually.

6. ROLE OF THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION:

- A. The Maritime Administration has facilitated the voluntary association of interested maritime educators, operators, and professional organizations to advance their development and implementation of common LG mariner training standards.
- B. By endorsement of the work of the LG Technical Working Group, the Maritime Administration undertakes to work with the LNG industry to create training and employment opportunities for U.S. mariners and cadets, to support efforts to gain approval for new and altered LG training programs, and to advocate programs that will improve training for U.S. LG qualified mariners.

7. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS:

This MOU does not confer any rights or benefits on any third party.

8. PERIOD OF OBSERVANCE:

This MOU shall be in effect from the date of execution until the party Organizations agree that it is no longer necessary or until it is replaced.

9. AMENDMENT OF MOU:

This MOU may be amended by deletion or modification of any provisions, provided that such amendment is in writing and is signed by all of the party Organizations.

10. LIMITATIONS:

The terms of this Agreement are not intended to alter, amend, or rescind any current agreement or provision of Federal law now in effect. Any provision of this MOU which conflicts with Federal law will be null and void.

SIGNATURE:

This LIQUEFIED GAS MARINER TRAINING STANDARDS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING and the associated LG Mariner Training Standards are approved and adopted for implementation as provided hereby:

JOSEPH D. STEWART

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Date: _____

WILLIAM B. EISENHARDT

California Maritime Academy

Date: _____

JOHN G. TANNER

Great Lakes Maritime Academy

Date: _____

LEONARD TYLER

Maine Maritime Academy

Date: _____

RICHARD GURNON

Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Date: _____

JOHN W. CRAINE

Maritime College, State University of New York

Date: _____

ALLEN B. WORLEY

Texas Maritime Academy

Date: _____

THOMAS BETHEL

American Maritime Officers

Date: _____

RON DAVIS

Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association

Date: _____

TIM BROWN

Masters, Mates & Pilots

Date: _____

GUNNAR LUNDEBERG

Sailor's Union of the Pacific

Date: _____

MICHAEL SACCO

Seafarers International Union

Date: _____

Endorsed:

SEAN T. CONNAUGHTON

Maritime Administrator

Date: _____

